

Remarks/Arguments:**Preliminary Matters**

Claims 1, 3 - 5, and 7 - 12 are pending, and claims 2, 6, and 26 - 38 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claims 26 - 38 are pending in a concurrently-filed Continuation Application from the present application.

Final Office Action of November 16, 2004

The applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 2, 6, and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The features of claims 2 and 6 have been included in amended claims 1 and 5, respectively, and thus claims 1 and 5, as amended, are currently in condition for allowance. Claim 12 is ultimately dependent upon allowable base claim 5, and therefore should also be allowed for at least this reason.

Claims 3 and 4 are dependent upon claim 1, and claims 7 - 12 are dependent upon claim 5. Thus, claims 3, 4, and 7 - 12 should also be allowed at least as dependent upon allowable base claims. Reconsideration of these claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments set forth above, the applicant contends that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: March 8, 2005


 Kimberly Hughes